



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

CHANEY, et al.

Atty. Dck. No. 108172-00037

Serial Number: 09/437,607

Group Art Number: 1638

Filed: November 10, 1999

Examiner: M. Ibrahim

For: RECOVERING METALS FROM SOIL

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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.112**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 13, 2001

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 18, 2001, a Petition for Extension of Time for one month from October 18, 2001 to November 18, 2001 attached hereto, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows. A marked-up copy of the claims is attached to this response.

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1. A method for selectively increasing the amount of at least one metal recovered from metal-containing soil comprising:
    - (a) elevating the pH of the soil from an initial pH to a raised pH; and
    - (b) cultivating at least one metal-hyperaccumulator plant in the soil having the raised pH under conditions sufficient to permit said at least one plant to accumulate said at least one metal from the soil in above-ground tissue.